

CLASSIFIED 7/21/81

Argentina R
AQ116

ARGENTINA

As reported in the Department's 1980 human rights report, the Argentine Government has usually facilitated the efforts of various groups and individuals seeking to investigate allegations of human rights abuse. In late 1978, the Argentine Government invited the Inter-American Human Rights Commission to visit Argentina. That visit took place in 1979. Argentina is cooperating with the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and its working group on disappearances. The International Committee of the Red Cross maintains an active program in Argentina, with government approval, on behalf of imprisoned persons. Argentina files regular reports with the International Labor Organization's Committee on Trade Union Freedom.

There have been no disappearances in Argentina since August of 1980. While there have been persons temporarily detained and whose whereabouts were unknown for a short period, these cases can hardly be classified as disappearances in the traditional sense. We are aware of two reports of torture this year. While harassment of human rights groups by some elements of the security forces have occurred, these instances usually have been rectified by the central authorities once they became aware of the situation. And the government is embarked on an aggressive program to either release or charge the remaining 900 persons detained under the National Executive Power (PEN). Eighty four persons have been released from PEN in the past month alone.

While human rights problems such as accounting for past disappearances and lack of complete press, judicial and political freedoms still exist, the existing human rights situation in Argentina today demonstrates that Argentina has made significant progress and cannot be categorized as a gross and consistent violator of human rights.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

GDS 7-21-87

Lot 82D275

Box 3541

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